What Is Claimed Is:

1. Apparatus for treating an interior region of a cardiac chamber, the apparatus comprising:

a catheter configured for insertion into a cardiac chamber, the catheter having a deflectable end region;

an end effector disposed within the deflectable end region, the end effector adapted to form a needle track at a treatment site in an interior region of the cardiac chamber, the end effector movable between a first position, wherein the end effector is retracted within the end region, and a second position, wherein the end effector is extended beyond a distal endface of the catheter; and

means for moving the end region between the first and second positions.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the end effector comprises a non-coring sharpened tip.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the end effector further comprises an electrode adapted to deliver RF energy to the treatment site.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the end effector further comprises means for depositing a controlled amount of a bioactive agent at the treatment site.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the end effector further comprises means for depositing a controlled amount of a bioactive agent at the treatment site.

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~~6.~~ The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the end effector further comprises a plurality of fine wires, the fine wires movable between a retracted position and an extended position, the plurality of fine wires forming a matrix of additional needle tracks at the treatment site when extended.

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~~7.~~ The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the end effector is coupled to a drive shaft, the apparatus further comprising a controller including a hydraulic mechanism coupled to the drive shaft to extend and retract the end effector.

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~~8.~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein the end effector is coupled to a drive shaft, the apparatus further comprising a controller including a pneumatic mechanism coupled to the drive shaft to extend and retract the end effector.

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~~9.~~ The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein the end effector is coupled to a drive shaft, the apparatus further comprising a manually actuated mechanism coupled to the drive shaft to extend and retract the end effector.

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~~10.~~ Apparatus for treating an interior region of a cardiac chamber, the apparatus comprising:

a catheter having a deflectable end region;

an end effector adapted to form a needle track at a treatment site in an interior region of the cardiac chamber, the end effector movable between a first position, wherein the end effector is retracted within the end region, and a second position, wherein the end effector is extended beyond a distal endface of

the catheter; and

means for depositing a bioactive agent in the needle track when the end effector is in the second position.

9 ~~11~~. The apparatus of claim 8 ~~10~~ wherein the end effector comprises a non-coring sharpened tip.

10 ~~12~~. The apparatus of claim 8 ~~10~~ wherein the end effector further comprises an electrode adapted to deliver RF energy to the treatment site.

11 ~~13~~. The apparatus of claim 10 ~~12~~ wherein the bioactive agent is a fluid and the means for depositing comprises supplies the fluid to the end effector under pressure.

12 ~~14~~. The apparatus of claim 8 ~~10~~ wherein bioactive agent has a pellet form and the means for depositing the bioactive agent comprises a push rod.

Seth A2 ~~15~~. A method of treating an interior region of a cardiac chamber comprising:

providing apparatus having a catheter adapted for insertion into a cardiac chamber, the catheter having a deflectable end region including an end effector adapted to form a needle track at a treatment site in an interior region of the cardiac chamber;

inserting the apparatus within a cardiac chamber;

deflecting the end region to dispose the end effector at a selected orientation relative to an endocardial surface; and

actuating the end effector to form a needle

track in an interior region of the cardiac chamber at a treatment site.

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~~16~~. The method of claim ~~15~~ further comprising delivering RF energy to the treatment site to create a controlled depth of necrosis at the treatment site.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising delivering a controlled amount of a bioactive agent at the treatment site.

18. The method of claim 15 further comprising delivering a controlled amount of a bioactive agent at the treatment site.

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19. The method of claim 18 wherein delivering a controlled amount of a bioactive agent at the treatment site further comprises injecting the bioactive agent under pressure sufficient to form a pocket of bioactive agent in the tissue.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein delivering a controlled amount of a bioactive agent at the treatment site further comprises injecting a pellet comprising a bioactive agent.

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~~21~~. The method as defined in claim ~~15~~ wherein the end effector further comprises a plurality of fine wires, the fine wires movable between a retracted position and an extended position, the method further comprising extending the plurality of fine wires to form a matrix of additional needle tracks at the treatment site.

22. The method as defined in claim 15 further comprising, following actuating the end effector:

translating the end region to relocate the end effector; and

repeating actuation of the end effector.